



State of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster
State Superintendent

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841
125 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53702
(608) 266-3390 **TDD** (608) 267-2427 **FAX** (608) 267-1052
Internet Address: www.dpi.state.wi.us

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To: Members, Wisconsin Council for the Social Studies

From: Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

Subject: Veterans Project

Duty. Service. Sacrifice. These are words associated with the contributions made by our veterans in peacetime and in war. During peacetime, veterans may fade from view with little note of their contributions to our freedoms and way of life. During times of war or national crisis, we see their significance loom. Yet, every hour of every day, our armed forces are on duty and stand ready to defend our country and its citizens.

Last year, the legislature enacted s. 115.28(48), Wis. stats., which directs the state superintendent to encourage school boards to invite veterans into their classrooms to share their experiences with students.

Incorporating veterans into the social studies curriculum is a valuable learning experience and can make history come alive for students. Existing programs have proven beneficial in helping students understand the price paid by their fellow citizens who have served in the armed forces. For this reason, I am asking for your assistance.

My first request is that you invite veterans into your classroom to afford students the opportunity to learn first-hand about their country and their world.

My second request is that you complete the [enclosed questionnaire](#). This will help us determine how the department can assist in promoting a statewide program of veterans visiting schools and how the DPI might be of assistance in furthering your teaching goals.

Please join me in this project to involve veterans in our schools and enhance the learning of our students.

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